

22 October 1970

MEMORANDUM FOR : Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT : Forthcoming Book: The Tuesday Cabinet by  
Professor Henry F. Graff

1. This memorandum is for information only to invite your attention to a forthcoming book entitled The Tuesday Cabinet: Deliberation and Decision on Peace and War under Lyndon B. Johnson (Englewood Cliffs, N.J.: Prentice-Hall, 1970) by Professor Henry F. Graff. Professor Graff is a professor of history at Columbia University and was chairman of the Department of History there for four years.

2. The book's title, "Tuesday Cabinet", is Professor Graff's formal title for what were generally known as the "Tuesday lunches" in the Johnson administration. In his Introduction, Professor Graff states that the initiative to invite him to write about the President's handling of international affairs came in mid-1965 from an assistant to Bill Moyers with the latter's approval. As a result, Professor Graff had several conversations between 1965 and 1968 with President Johnson, Secretaries Rusk and McNamara, General Wheeler, McGeorge Bundy and Walt Rostow on the Vietnamese war. Some of this material has previously appeared in two articles Graff wrote for the New York Times Magazine.

3. There is no indication in the text that the author talked with Mr. Helms, and there is only one (and rather inaccurate) reference to the DCI in the text. This reference is in the Introduction where Professor Graff writes that while General Wheeler only attended the early sessions of the Tuesday Cabinet on an ad hoc basis, he was usually present from 1966 on because the uniformed services objected that they were not fully represented at the meetings and also because the solution to Vietnam appeared at that time to be military rather than diplomatic. "At about the same time and for comparable reasons, Richard M. Helms, the Director of the Central Intelligence Agency, also began to be invited." (p. 4)